

May 16, 1977

LB 220

SENATOR CHAMBERS. But, that is not the question I am asking because if God was handling this there wouldn't be liquor here in the first place, so he is out of it. Senator DeCamp, can you guarantee that the money will be appropriated by the legislature from the general fund to fund this program which the legislature has not done in the past?

SENATOR DE CAMP: No man on this floor can guarantee to another 25 votes on anything. Therefore, nobody could guarantee that to you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you Senator DeCamp. Senator DeCamp was able to guarantee 30 votes today, wasn't he. Because the liquor industry did the work. That is why before the presiding officer, I started to say presiding elder, gets the words out of his mouth have you all...

PRESIDENT. I was younger once.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And wise. Still is wise. He is wiser now. A wise man, not a wise guy. I'll tell you what, when they vote on this you watch how fast those votes pop up on that board. He is not going to have to say, have you all voted? Senator DeCamp won't have to stand up here and stall around like he is going to make a Call of the House. Everybody who is going to vote for this bill has been given marching orders and there is no need to pretend that the issue is ear marking. Money could have been appropriated for a program like this long, long ago. We know what the issue is. I know what it is, and if you don't, I'm going to tell you again. It is adherence to principles freely and openly espoused earlier in the session which the heat has become to great to allow you to stick by. So, for the Chair, he is not going to have to worry about calling for votes today. I am opposed to the advancement of this bill. I am opposed to the entire procedure. Because, I think that the legislature on a matter such as this should set the example for the entire state. Should take an act which not only funds a program and establishes it, but has a degree of symbolism which is needed when you deal with something as devastating as alcohol in a society such as this one. The legislature is running again. I have to lower my eyes in sadness and sorrow to see a body which could be filled with such august individuals turn into oatmeal men. That is what I see happening here. It grieves me to my heart and I do have a heart. What I would like to see is the legislature this once, just this once tell the liquor industry where it ought to go and what it ought to do when it gets there. You are allowing them by legislation to destroy the young people in this country...to help break up families, to contribute to the crime wave that Senator Venditte is so concerned about, he is always talking about victims. So, does Senator John Murphy, always talking about the victim this, the victim that. Be concerned about the victim. Here is the liquor industry saying, blank all of that out of your mind. Do what I tell you what to do. You say but liquor industry you can't put me in the legislature you only have one vote. Money buys votes. Money buys elections. Money puts people in office and money keeps people out of office.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I am talking about a reality that everybody understands here. One thing that I will guarantee you although

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